ADA

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The Bureau of Economic and
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The 1987 Survey of Dental Practice

Employment of Dental Practice Personnel

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EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL
FOR THE YEAR 1986

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HIGHLIGHTS

NOTE: COMPUTATION OF MEAN VALUES BASED ON LESS THAN 25 RESPONSES MAY NOT BE STATISTICALLY RELIABLE. USE CAUTION WHEN INTERPRETING TABLES WITH LOW "NUMBERS" OF RESPONSES.

* Most (96.0%) of all independent dentists employed at least some dental practice personnel on a full- or part-time basis; 53.7% employ at least one dental hygienist (full- or part-time); 86.1% employ at least one chairside assistant (full- or part-time); and 9.1% employ at least one dental laboratory technician (full- or part-time).

* Among independent dentists who employed dental practice personnel, the average number of dental hygienists (full- or part-time) per dentist ranged from 1.00 for independent solo dentists graduating since 1980 to 1.76 for solo specialists. The average number of chairside assistants (full- or part-time) per dentist ranged from 1.40 for independent dentists graduating since 1980 to 2.12 for independent solo specialists.

* Among independent dentists, 28.5% employed full-time dental hygienists and 34.3% employed at least one hygienist on a part-time basis. Over three-fourths of independent dentists (77.4%) employed at least one full-time chairside assistant and 25.9% employed at least one on a part-time basis. Only 6.0% employed at least one full-time dental laboratory technician and 3.4% employed at least one on a part-time basis.

* There are some apparent differences in the employment of dental practice personnel between independent general practitioners and independent specialists. Among the general practitioners, 30.8% employed at least one full-time dental hygienist, specialists, 15.4%; 76.3% of the general practitioners employed at least one full-time chairside assistant, specialists, 83.3%; 5.0% of the general practitioners employed at least one full-time dental laboratory technician, specialists, 11.5%.

INTRODUCTION

This report provides descriptive statistics from the 1987 Survey of Dental Practice regarding personnel employed by independent dentists. Information is provided for independent dentists, solo dentists, and independent dentists graduating since 1980.

Data is presented separately for dental hygienists, chairside assistants, dental laboratory technicians, and all staff combined. The "all staff" category consists of the total number of dental hygienists, chairside assistants, dental laboratory technicians, secretaries and receptionists, bookkeepers and other business personnel. Dentists employed by the practice are NOT included.

The following is a summary of the data presented: percent of dentists employing staff (full- and part-time), length of employment of dental hygienists and chairside assistants, weekly and hourly salary figures for dental hygienists, number of patients treated by dental hygienists per week, and mean number of dental hygienists and chairside assistants per dentist. Detailed tables present figures for independent general practitioners and specialists separately, as well as an overall weighted average.

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS

Most independent dentists (96.0%) employed some full- or part-time staff. Somewhat less than half (43.8%) had one to three employees, and 52.2% employed four or more staff members.

Fewer dentists (88.3%) employed at least one full-time staff member. Over one-quarter (27.0%) of independent dentists employed four or more full-time staff members. Twice as many (61.2%) employed one to three full-time personnel. About one-quarter of independent dentists (25.1%) employed one part-time employee, while 39.0% employed no part-time personnel. The average number of personnel (full- or part-time) per dentist among dentists who employed personnel was 3.48.

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Over half (53.7%) of the independent dentists employed at least one full- or part-time dental hygienist. More independent general practitioners than independent specialists employed dental hygienists. More than three-quarters (76.3%) of the specialists employed no dental hygienists, while only 41.0% of general practitioners reported employing no dental hygienists.

Slightly more independent dentists employed part-time dental hygienists than full-time dental hygienists. Overall, 28.5% of the independent dentists employed at least one full-time dental hygienist. Thirty-one percent of independent general practitioners employed at least one full-time dental hygienist, and 15.4% of independent specialists employed full-time dental hygienists. About one-third (34.3%) of independent dentists employed at least one part-time dental hygienist. This figures also differs substantially between independent general practitioners and specialists; 38.1% of independent general practitioners employed at least one part-time dental hygienist, while only 13.1% of the independent specialists employed part-time dental hygienists.

Among all independent dentists, the number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.69. The number of full-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.27, while the average number of part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.42.

Among all independent dentists employing dental hygienists, the average number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 1.28. This average is slightly lower for full-time dental hygienists, 0.96, while the average number of part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 1.21.

The average number of patients treated per week by dental hygienists was 39.2. This figure was lower for solo dentist practices (33.0), but in practices with three or more dentists the number of patients treated per week by dental hygienists increased to 70.9.

The overall mean length of dental hygienists' employment in their current practice was 5.05 years. Dental hygienists' mean length of experience prior to employment in the current practice was 4.94 years, with no substantial differences between hygienists employed by general practitioners and specialists. Dental hygienists have an average of 9.99 years of experience, including experience gained prior to and in their current practice.

The overall average weekly salary for a full-time (32 or more hours per week) dental hygienist was approximately $453.05. Dental hygienists in solo dentist practices earned, on average, 10% less than those employed in a practice with three or more dentists. The overall mean hourly dental hygienist salary (full- or part-time) was $14.34.

CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

Most independent dentists (86.1%) reported employing one or more full- or part-time chairside assistant. The percentage was lower for independent general practitioners (85.1%) than for independent specialists (91.5%). On the average, independent specialists employed more chairside assistants than general practitioners. The portion of independent specialists employing three or more (full- or part-time) chairside assistants was 36.7%, as compared to 14.8% for independent general practitioners.

Over three-quarters (77.4%) of all independent dentists employ full-time chairside assistants. Among independent specialists, the percent was 83.3%, and for general practitioners, 76.3%. Over one quarter (25.9%) of all independent dentists employ part-time chairside

assistants. Among independent specialists, the percent was somewhat higher (30.8%); while independent general practitioners reported a slightly lower percentage (25.0%).

Independent dentists reported an average of 1.31 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants per dentist. The average number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist was 1.00, while the average number of part-time chairside assistants was 0.31.

An average of 1.52 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants was reported among independent dentists who employed chairside assistants. The average declined to 1.30 for the number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist and to 1.19 for the number of part-time chairside assistants per dentist.

DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

Among independent dentists, 90.9% reported employing no full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians. The percentage was slightly higher for independent general practitioners (92.5%), and lower for specialists (82.1%).

Exactly 94.0% of all independently dentists reported employing no full-time dental laboratory technicians, and 96.6% reported employing no part-time dental laboratory technicians.

The mean number of full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians per dentist was 0.08. The mean number of full- or part-time laboratory technicians among dentists employing them was 0.92.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO EMPLOYEES	77	4.3	9	2.6	85	4.0
1 EMPLOYEE	193	10.7	18	5.5	211	9.9
2 EMPLOYEES	289	16.1	41	12.9	330	15.6
3 EMPLOYEES	338	18.7	50	15.5	387	18.3
4 EMPLOYEES	300	16.7	43	13.2	343	16.2
5 EMPLOYEES	194	10.8	40	12.5	234	11.0
6 EMPLOYEES	152	8.5	27	8.3	179	8.4
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	257	14.3	95	29.5	352	16.6
ALL	1800	100.0	321	100.0	2122	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO EMPLOYEES	218	12.1	32	9.8	249	11.7
1 EMPLOYEE	331	18.3	32	10.0	363	17.0
2 EMPLOYEES	506	28.0	57	17.7	563	26.4
3 EMPLOYEES	313	17.3	66	20.3	378	17.8
4 EMPLOYEES	185	10.3	35	10.7	220	10.3
5 EMPLOYEES	87	4.8	27	8.5	114	5.4
6 EMPLOYEES	50	2.8	24	7.3	73	3.4
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	117	6.5	51	15.8	168	7.9
ALL	1806	100.0	323	100.0	2129	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES						
NO EMPLOYEES	691	38.3	137	42.7	828	39.0
1 EMPLOYEE	466	25.9	67	20.8	533	25.1
2 EMPLOYEES	300	16.7	55	17.0	355	16.7
3 EMPLOYEES	155	8.6	24	7.4	178	8.4
4 EMPLOYEES	111	6.1	16	4.9	126	6.0
5 EMPLOYEES	40	2.2	10	3.2	50	2.3
6 EMPLOYEES	14	0.8	4	1.1	17	0.8
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	27	1.5	9	2.8	36	1.7
ALL	1803	100.0	321	100.0	2124	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	3.23	1595	3.96	529	3.34	2124
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.12	1600	2.84	532	2.23	2132
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.11	1597	1.11	529	1.11	2126

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS WITH EMPLOYEES

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	3.37	1527	4.07	515	3.48	2042
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.41	1407	3.15	480	2.52	1887
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.79	985	1.93	303	1.81	1288

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
NUMBER OF HYGIENISTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	745	41.0	247	76.3	992	46.3
1 HYGIENIST	619	34.0	39	12.0	657	30.7
2 HYGIENISTS	315	17.3	19	5.8	334	15.6
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	140	7.7	19	5.8	159	7.4
ALL - WEIGHTED	1819	100.0	323	100.0	2142	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	1259	69.2	273	84.6	1532	71.5
1 HYGIENIST	437	24.0	32	9.8	468	21.9
2 HYGIENISTS	91	5.0	12	3.6	103	4.8
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	32	1.7	7	2.1	38	1.8
ALL - WEIGHTED	1819	100.0	323	100.0	2142	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

PART-TIME HYGIENISTS	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED NUMBER	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED PERCENT	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED NUMBER	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED PERCENT	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	1125	61.9	281	86.9	1407	65.7
1 HYGIENIST	453	24.9	26	8.1	479	22.3
2 HYGIENISTS	174	9.6	8	2.4	182	8.5
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	67	3.7	9	2.6	75	3.5
ALL - WEIGHTED	1819	100.0	324	100.0	2142	100.0

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — MEAN	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — NUMBER	SPECIALIST — MEAN	SPECIALIST — NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — MEAN	ALL - WEIGHTED — NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.75	1611	0.37	532	0.69	2143
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.29	1611	0.20	532	0.27	2143
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.46	1611	0.18	533	0.42	2144

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.26	951	1.58	126	1.28	1077
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.93	496	1.27	82	0.96	578
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.21	614	1.36	70	1.21	684

MEAN NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED BY HYGIENIST PER WEEK

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
TOTAL DENTISTS						
1 DENTIST	32.4	659	43.8	77	33.0	736
2 DENTISTS	43.2	155	77.5	16	45.0	171
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	66.8	98	121.0	15	70.9	113
ALL - WEIGHTED	37.9	912	59.5	108	39.2	1020

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

HYGIENIST MEAN LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT (IN YEARS)

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT IN THIS PRACTICE	5.06	1210	4.90	169	5.05	1379
PRIOR EXPERIENCE	4.94	1180	4.91	166	4.94	1346

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	293.83	777	381.10	123	300.68	900
2 DENTISTS	358.64	201	378.48	22	359.74	223
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	394.07	178	412.32	21	395.16	199
ALL - WEIGHTED	320.53	1156	384.70	166	325.14	1322

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	428.78	223	484.07	59	435.67	282
2 DENTISTS	462.47	89	470.62	11	462.98	100
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	484.26	102	496.07	13	485.02	115
ALL - WEIGHTED	449.70	414	484.17	83	453.05	497

MEAN HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	14.16	769	15.37	123	14.26	892
2 DENTISTS	15.08	200	13.82	22	15.01	222
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	14.01	178	13.73	21	13.99	199
ALL - WEIGHTED	14.30	1147	14.96	166	14.34	1313

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	270	14.9	27	8.5	297	13.9
1 ASSISTANT	792	43.8	87	27.1	880	41.3
2 ASSISTANTS	480	26.5	90	27.8	570	26.7
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	268	14.8	118	36.7	386	18.1
ALL - WEIGHTED	1809	100.0	323	100.0	2133	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	429	23.7	54	16.7	483	22.6
1 ASSISTANT	895	49.4	106	32.7	1001	46.9
2 ASSISTANTS	347	19.1	72	22.2	418	19.6
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	140	7.7	92	28.4	232	10.9
ALL - WEIGHTED	1811	100.0	323	100.0	2134	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	1357	75.0	223	69.2	1580	74.1
1 ASSISTANT	300	16.6	55	16.9	355	16.6
2 ASSISTANTS	114	6.3	26	7.9	140	6.5
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	38	2.1	19	6.0	58	2.7
ALL - WEIGHTED	1809	100.0	323	100.0	2133	100.0

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.22	1603	1.85	532	1.31	2135
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.93	1604	1.43	532	1.00	2136
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.29	1603	0.42	532	0.31	2135

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.43	1364	2.02	487	1.52	1851
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.21	1224	1.71	443	1.30	1667
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.16	401	1.37	164	1.19	565

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS						
NO TECHNICIANS	1673	92.5	265	82.1	1938	90.9
1 TECHNICIAN	97	5.4	44	13.7	141	6.6
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	38	2.1	13	4.1	52	2.4
ALL - WEIGHTED	1808	100.0	322	100.0	2131	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS						
NO TECHNICIANS	1719	95.0	286	88.5	2005	94.0
1 TECHNICIAN	60	3.3	30	9.2	90	4.2
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	30	1.7	7	2.3	38	1.8
ALL - WEIGHTED	1809	100.0	323	100.0	2133	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS						
NO TECHNICIANS	1760	97.3	299	92.7	2059	96.6
1 TECHNICIAN	43	2.4	21	6.4	64	3.0
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	6	0.3	3	0.9	9	0.4
ALL - WEIGHTED	1808	100.0	322	100.0	2131	100.0

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	0.07	1602	0.17	531	0.08	2133
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.04	1603	0.10	532	0.05	2135
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.03	1602	0.07	531	0.03	2133

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	0.91	120	0.93	95	0.92	215
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.85	80	0.86	61	0.85	141
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.98	43	0.91	39	0.95	82

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

SOLO DENTISTS

Most solo dentists (95.1%) employed some full- or part-time staff. Over half (51.2%), had one to three employees, and 43.8% employed four or more staff members.

Fewer dentists (85.9%) employed full-time staff. Only 17.0% of solo dentists employed four or more full-time staff members. Less than three-quarters (68.9%) employed between one to three full-time personnel.

Slightly over one-quarter of solo dentists (26.5%) employed one part-time employee, while 41.0% employed no part-time personnel. The average number of personnel (full- or part-time) per dentist among dentists who employed personnel was 3.71.

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Half (50.6%) of the solo dentists employed at least one full- or part-time dental hygienist. More solo general practitioners than solo specialists employed dental hygienists. Over three-quarters (75.9%) of the specialists employed no dental hygienists, while only 45.1% of general practitioners reported employing no dental hygienists.

More solo dentists employed part-time dental hygienists than full-time dental hygienists and considerably more general practitioners than specialists employed dental hygienists. Overall, 23.5% of the solo dentists employed at least one full-time dental hygienist. Almost one-quarter (24.9%) of solo general practitioners employed at least one full-time dental hygienist, while the figure for solo specialists was only 14.9%. About one-third (32.9%) of solo dentists employed at least one part-time dental hygienist. This figure differs substantially between solo general practitioners and specialists. Just over one-third (36.2%) of solo general practitioners employed at least one part-time dental hygienist, while only 13.0% of the solo specialists employed part-time dental hygienists.

Among all solo dentists, the number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.74. The number of full-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.28, and the average number of part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.46.

Among all solo dentists employing dental hygienists, the average number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 1.46. This average is lower for full-time dental hygienists (1.18). The average number of part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 1.41.

The average number of patients treated per week by dental hygienists was 33.0. This figure was slightly higher for solo specialists (43.8), while dental hygienists working for solo general practitioners treated, on average, 32.4 patients per week.

The overall mean length of dental hygienists' employment in their current practice was 4.93 years. Dental hygienists' mean length of experience prior to employment in the current practice was 5.08 years, with no substantial difference between general practitioners and specialists. Dental hygienists have an average of 10.01 years of experience. This includes experience gained prior to and in their current practice.

The overall average weekly salary for a full-time (32 or more hours per week) dental hygienist was approximately $434.84. Dental hygienists employed by solo general practitioners earned, on average, $427.81 per week. This figure was 11.6% less than the salary ($484.07 per week) earned by hygienists employed in a solo specialist practice. The overall mean hourly hygienist salary was $14.25.

CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

Most solo dentists (83.8%) reported employing one or more full- or part-time chairside assistants. The percentage was similar for solo general practitioners (83.0%), but higher for solo specialists (88.9%). Solo specialists employed a greater percentage of chairside assistants than did general practitioners. The percentage of solo specialists employing three or more (full- or part-time) chairside assistants was 21.2% as compared to 6.7% for solo general practitioners.

Almost three-quarters (73.7%) of all solo dentists employ full-time chairside assistants. Among solo specialists, the percentage was 77.7%, and for general practitioners, 73.1%. Almost one-quarter (23.1%) of all solo dentists employ part-time chairside assistants. Among solo specialists, the percentage was somewhat higher, at 27.9%. Solo general practitioners reported a slightly lower percentage, at 22.3%.

Solo dentists reported an average of 1.37 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants per dentist. The average number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist was 1.04, while the average number of part-time chairside assistants was 0.33.

An average of 1.63 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants was reported among solo dentists who employed chairside assistants. The average declined to 1.40 for the number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist and to 1.44 for the number of part-time chairside assistants per dentist.

DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

Among solo dentists, 92.9% reported employing no full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians. The percentage was slightly higher for solo general practitioners (94.4%), and lower for specialists (84.0%).

Most (96.6%) solo dentists reported that they did not employ part-time dental laboratory technicians.

The mean number of full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians per dentist was 0.08. The mean number of full- or part-time laboratory technicians among dentists employing them was 1.13.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES						
NO EMPLOYEES	72	5.2	7	3.2	80	4.9
1 EMPLOYEE	175	12.6	18	7.7	193	11.9
2 EMPLOYEES	253	18.2	38	16.5	291	18.0
3 EMPLOYEES	299	21.6	46	20.0	345	21.3
4 EMPLOYEES	252	18.1	38	16.8	290	18.0
5 EMPLOYEES	146	10.5	29	12.8	175	10.8
6 EMPLOYEES	112	8.1	18	8.0	130	8.0
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	79	5.7	34	14.9	113	7.0
ALL	1387	100.0	228	100.0	1615	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO EMPLOYEES	199	14.3	29	12.7	228	14.1
1 EMPLOYEE	290	20.9	32	14.1	322	19.9
2 EMPLOYEES	442	31.8	50	21.8	492	30.4
3 EMPLOYEES	249	17.9	52	22.8	302	18.6
4 EMPLOYEES	121	8.7	27	11.7	148	9.1
5 EMPLOYEES	43	3.1	15	6.6	58	3.6
6 EMPLOYEES	26	1.9	13	5.6	39	2.4
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	20	1.5	11	4.8	31	1.9
ALL	1391	100.0	229	100.0	1620	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES						
NO EMPLOYEES	566	40.7	98	42.9	663	41.0
1 EMPLOYEE	371	26.7	56	24.8	428	26.5
2 EMPLOYEES	228	16.4	36	16.0	264	16.4
3 EMPLOYEES	115	8.3	16	7.2	132	8.1
4 EMPLOYEES	76	5.4	10	4.3	85	5.3
5 EMPLOYEES	21	1.5	5	2.1	26	1.6
6 EMPLOYEES	8	0.6	3	1.3	11	0.7
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	5	0.3	3	1.3	8	0.5
ALL	1390	100.0	228	100.0	1617	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
ALL STAFF

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	3.42	1229	4.16	375	3.53	1604
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.22	1232	2.89	377	2.31	1609
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.20	1231	1.25	375	1.21	1606

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS WITH EMPLOYEES

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	3.61	1165	4.30	363	3.71	1528
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.59	1056	3.31	329	2.69	1385
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.03	730	2.20	214	2.05	944

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
NUMBER OF HYGIENISTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	632	45.1	174	75.9	806	49.4
1 HYGIENIST	498	35.5	32	14.1	530	32.5
2 HYGIENISTS	211	15.1	14	6.1	225	13.8
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	60	4.3	9	4.0	69	4.2
ALL - WEIGHTED	1401	100.0	229	100.0	1630	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	1052	75.1	195	85.1	1247	76.5
1 HYGIENIST	307	21.9	24	10.6	331	20.3
2 HYGIENISTS	33	2.3	7	3.2	40	2.5
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	9	0.6	2	1.1	11	0.7
ALL - WEIGHTED	1401	100.0	229	100.0	1630	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

PART-TIME HYGIENISTS	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED NUMBER	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED PERCENT	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED NUMBER	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED PERCENT	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED PERCENT
NO HYGIENISTS	894	63.8	200	87.0	1094	67.1
1 HYGIENIST	343	24.5	18	7.9	361	22.2
2 HYGIENISTS	133	9.5	7	2.9	140	8.6
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	30	2.2	5	2.1	35	2.2
ALL - WEIGHTED	1401	100.0	230	100.0	1630	100.0

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — MEAN	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — NUMBER	SPECIALIST — MEAN	SPECIALIST — NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — MEAN	ALL - WEIGHTED — NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.79	1241	0.42	377	0.74	1618
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.29	1241	0.21	377	0.28	1618
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.50	1241	0.21	378	0.46	1619

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.44	681	1.76	91	1.46	772
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.16	309	1.43	56	1.18	365
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.39	449	1.65	49	1.41	498

MEAN NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED BY HYGIENIST PER WEEK

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
TOTAL DENTISTS						
1 DENTIST	32.4	658	43.8	77	33.0	735
ALL - WEIGHTED	32.4	658	43.8	77	33.0	735

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

HYGIENIST MEAN LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT (IN YEARS)

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT IN THIS PRACTICE	4.93	821	4.85	124	4.93	945
PRIOR EXPERIENCE	5.08	808	5.08	121	5.08	929

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	293.38	776	381.10	123	300.27	899
ALL - WEIGHTED	293.38	776	381.10	123	300.27	899

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	427.81	222	484.07	59	434.84	281
ALL - WEIGHTED	427.81	222	484.07	59	434.84	281

MEAN HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	14.15	768	15.37	123	14.25	891
ALL - WEIGHTED	14.15	768	15.37	123	14.25	891

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	237	17.0	26	11.1	263	16.2
1 ASSISTANT	707	50.7	77	33.7	784	48.3
2 ASSISTANTS	357	25.6	78	34.0	434	26.8
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	94	6.7	49	21.2	142	8.8
ALL - WEIGHTED	1394	100.0	229	100.0	1623	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	376	26.9	51	22.3	427	26.3
1 ASSISTANT	773	55.4	90	39.5	864	53.2
2 ASSISTANTS	220	15.8	58	25.2	278	17.1
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	26	1.9	30	13.0	56	3.4
ALL - WEIGHTED	1395	100.0	229	100.0	1624	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	1084	77.7	165	72.1	1249	76.9
1 ASSISTANT	216	15.5	38	16.7	254	15.6
2 ASSISTANTS	77	5.5	16	6.9	93	5.7
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	18	1.3	10	4.2	28	1.7
ALL - WEIGHTED	1394	100.0	229	100.0	1623	100.0

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.28	1235	1.88	377	1.37	1612
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.97	1236	1.41	377	1.04	1613
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.31	1235	0.47	377	0.33	1612

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.55	1025	2.12	335	1.63	1360
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.33	903	1.82	293	1.40	1196
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.40	275	1.68	105	1.44	380

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL — SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED NUMBER	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED PERCENT	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED NUMBER	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED PERCENT	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED PERCENT
NO TECHNICIANS	1315	94.4	192	84.0	1507	92.9
1 TECHNICIAN	67	4.8	33	14.4	99	6.1
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	11	0.8	4	1.6	15	0.9
ALL - WEIGHTED	1393	100.0	228	100.0	1621	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS

FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS	TYPE OF DENTIST: GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED NUMBER	GENERAL PRACTITIONER — WEIGHTED PERCENT	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED NUMBER	SPECIALIST — WEIGHTED PERCENT	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED NUMBER	ALL - WEIGHTED — WEIGHTED PERCENT
NO TECHNICIANS	1355	97.2	207	90.5	1562	96.2
1 TECHNICIAN	34	2.4	21	9.0	55	3.4
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	6	0.4	1	0.5	7	0.4
ALL - WEIGHTED	1394	100.0	229	100.0	1623	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO TECHNICIANS	1353	97.2	212	92.8	1565	96.6
1 TECHNICIAN	35	2.5	16	6.9	51	3.1
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	5	0.3	1	0.3	5	0.3
ALL - WEIGHTED	1393	100.0	228	100.0	1621	100.0

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	0.06	1234	0.18	376	0.08	1610
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.03	1235	0.10	377	0.04	1612
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.03	1234	0.07	376	0.04	1610

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

SOLO DENTISTS
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	1.14	69	1.10	60	1.13	129
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	1.14	35	1.06	36	1.11	71
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	1.11	35	1.04	27	1.09	62

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS GRADUATING SINCE 1980

Most independent dentists graduating since 1980 (98.6%) employed some full- or part-time staff. More than half (54.1%) had one to three employees, while 44.5% employed four or more staff members.

Fewer independent dentists graduating since 1980 (90.0%) employed full-time staff. Just 18.2% of independent dentists graduating since 1980 employed four or more full-time staff members, and 71.8% employed one to three full-time personnel.

Still fewer (61.5%) independent dentists graduating since 1980 reported employing at least one part-time staff member. The average number of personnel (full- or part-time) per dentist among dentists who employed personnel was 2.80.

DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Just under half (47.4%) of independent dentists graduating since 1980 employed at least one full- or part-time dental hygienist. Slightly more independent dentists graduating since 1980 employed part-time dental hygienists than full-time dental hygienists. Overall, 23.8% of the independent dentists graduating since 1980 employed at least one full-time dental hygienist. About one-fourth (24.6%) of independent general practitioners employed at least one full-time dental hygienist, and 28.5% employed at least one part-time dental hygienist.

Among all independent dentists graduating since 1980, the number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.48. The number of full-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.18, and the average number of part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 0.30.

Among all independent dentists graduating since 1980 who emloyed dental hygienists, the average number of full- or part-time dental hygienists per dentist was 1.02. This average is lower for full-time dental hygienists (0.76), and higher for part-time dental hygienists (1.07).

The average number of patients treated per week by dental hygienists was 35.5. In practices with three or more dentists, the number of patients treated per week by dental hygienists increased to 52.0.

The overall mean length of dental hygienists' employment in their current practice was 3.18 years. Dental hygienists' mean length of experience prior to employment in the current practice was 5.43 years. Dental hygienists have an average of 8.61 years of experience. This includes experience gained prior to and in their current practice. The overall average weekly salary for a full-time (32 or more hours per week) dental hygienist was $431.61. The overall mean hourly dental hygienist salary (full- or part-time) was $13.92.

CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

Most (87.1%) independent dentists graduating since 1980 reported employing one or more full- or part-time chairside assistant. Over three-quarters (75.5%) of all independent dentists graduating since 1980 employed full-time chairside assistants.

Independent dentists graduating since 1980 reported an average of 1.22 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants per dentist. The average number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist was 0.78, while the average number of part-time chairside assistants was 0.44.

An average of 1.40 (full- or part-time) chairside assistants was reported among independent dentists graduating since 1980 who employed chairside assistants. The average declined to 1.04 for the number of full-time chairside assistants per dentist and to 1.37 for the number of part-time chairside assistants per dentist.

DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

Among independent dentists graduating since 1980, 96.8% reported employing no full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians.

Slightly more (97.9%) of all independent dentists graduating since 1980 reported that they did not employ full-time dental laboratory technicians, and 98.9% reported employing no part-time dental laboratory technicians.

The mean number of full- or part-time dental laboratory technicians per dentist was 0.03. The mean number of full- or part-time laboratory technicians among dentists employing them was 0.97.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES						
NO EMPLOYEES	2	1.1	1	6.7	3	1.4
1 EMPLOYEE	19	9.6	0	0	19	9.1
2 EMPLOYEES	37	18.5	2	26.7	40	18.9
3 EMPLOYEES	53	26.4	2	20.0	55	26.1
4 EMPLOYEES	42	20.8	2	20.0	44	20.8
5 EMPLOYEES	20	10.1	1	6.7	21	10.0
6 EMPLOYEES	5	2.2	0	0	5	2.1
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	23	11.2	2	20.0	24	11.6
ALL	201	100.0	9	100.0	210	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES						
NO EMPLOYEES	18	8.9	3	33.3	21	10.0
1 EMPLOYEE	41	20.1	2	20.0	42	20.1
2 EMPLOYEES	71	35.2	2	26.7	74	34.8
3 EMPLOYEES	35	17.3	1	6.7	36	16.9
4 EMPLOYEES	16	7.8	0	0	16	7.5
5 EMPLOYEES	8	3.9	1	6.7	9	4.0
6 EMPLOYEES	2	1.1	0	0	2	1.1
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	11	5.6	1	6.7	12	5.6
ALL	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
ALL STAFF

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME PERSONNEL

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME EMPLOYEES	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO EMPLOYEES	79	39.3	2	20.0	81	38.5
1 EMPLOYEE	55	27.5	1	13.3	57	26.9
2 EMPLOYEES	33	16.3	2	20.0	35	16.5
3 EMPLOYEES	15	7 3	2	20.0	16	7.9
4 EMPLOYEES	12	6.2	0	0	12	5.9
5 EMPLOYEES	2	1.1	1	13.3	3	1.7
6 EMPLOYEES	1	0.6	1	6.7	2	0.8
7 OR MORE EMPLOYEES	3	1.7	1	6.7	4	1.9
ALL	201	100.0	9	100.0	210	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
ALL STAFF

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.77	178	2.69	15	2.76	193
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.76	179	0.98	15	1.73	194
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.00	178	1.71	15	1.03	193

MEAN PERSONNEL PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS WITH EMPLOYEES

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
FULL- OR PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	2.80	176	2.88	14	2.80	190
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.94	163	1.47	10	1.92	173
PART-TIME PERSONNEL PER DENTIST	1.65	108	2.14	12	1.68	120

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NUMBER OF HYGIENISTS						
NO HYGIENISTS	104	51.4	7	80.0	111	52.6
1 HYGIENIST	71	35.2	1	6.7	72	34.0
2 HYGIENISTS	17	8.4	1	6.7	18	8.3
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	10	5.0	1	6.7	11	5.1
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS						
NO HYGIENISTS	152	75.4	9	93.3	161	76.2
1 HYGIENIST	43	21.2	1	6.7	44	20.6
2 HYGIENISTS	7	3.4	0	0	7	3.2
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS						
NO HYGIENISTS	144	71.5	7	80.0	152	71.9
1 HYGIENIST	40	19.6	1	6.7	40	19.0
2 HYGIENISTS	12	6.1	1	6.7	13	6.2
3 OR MORE HYGIENISTS	6	2.8	1	6.7	6	3.0
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.50	179	0.20	15	0.48	194
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.19	179	0.01	15	0.18	194
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.31	179	0.19	15	0.30	194

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING HYGIENISTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.02	87	1.00	3	1.02	90
FULL-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	0.77	44	0.17	1	0.76	45
PART-TIME HYGIENISTS PER DENTIST	1.08	51	0.94	3	1.07	54

MEAN NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED BY HYGIENISTS PER WEEK

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK		PATIENTS TREATED PER WEEK	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
TOTAL DENTISTS						
1 DENTIST	27.8	50	23.0	1	27.8	51
2 DENTISTS	36.5	19	280.0	1	43.2	20
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	41.7	14	320.0	1	52.0	15
ALL - WEIGHTED	32.2	83	207.7	3	35.5	86

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

HYGIENIST MEAN LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT (IN YEARS)

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	N	MEAN	N	MEAN	N
LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT IN THIS PRACTICE	3.21	100	1.48	4	3.18	104
PRIOR EXPERIENCE	5.52	102	1.29	4	5.43	106

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	284.26	51	139.58	1	282.75	52
2 DENTISTS	361.73	19	180.00	2	351.99	21
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	412.05	20	575.00	1	416.32	21
ALL - WEIGHTED	329.01	90	268.65	4	327.60	94

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL HYGIENISTS

MEAN WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY		WEEKLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	389.41	15	0	0	389.41	15
2 DENTISTS	450.69	7	0	0	450.69	7
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	464.09	13	575.00	1	468.50	14
ALL - WEIGHTED	429.41	35	575.00	1	431.61	36

MEAN HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY ON A FULL- OR PART-TIME BASIS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY		HOURLY HYGIENIST SALARY	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
NUMBER OF DENTISTS						
ONE DENTIST	12.89	51	6.98	1	12.83	52
2 DENTISTS	17.08	19	10.00	2	16.70	21
3 OR MORE DENTISTS	13.91	20	14.37	1	13.92	21
ALL - WEIGHTED	14.00	90	10.34	4	13.92	94

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS						
NO ASSISTANTS	26	12.8	1	13.3	27	12.9
1 ASSISTANT	84	41.3	3	33.3	87	41.0
2 ASSISTANTS	55	27.4	2	26.7	58	27.3
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	37	18.4	2	26.7	40	18.8
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS						
NO ASSISTANTS	47	23.5	4	46.7	52	24.5
1 ASSISTANT	106	52.5	3	33.3	109	51.7
2 ASSISTANTS	34	16.8	1	6.7	34	16.3
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	15	7.3	1	13.3	16	7.5
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO ASSISTANTS	139	68.7	4	46.7	143	67.8
1 ASSISTANT	40	19.6	1	13.3	41	19.3
2 ASSISTANTS	14	6.7	2	20.0	15	7.3
3 OR MORE ASSISTANTS	10	5.0	2	20.0	12	5.7
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIS	1.22	179	1.31	15	1.22	194
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.79	179	0.53	15	0.78	194
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	0.43	179	0.78	15	0.44	194

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS

MEAN CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING ASSISTANTS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.40	156	1.51	13	1.40	169
FULL-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.04	137	1.00	8	1.04	145
PART-TIME ASSISTANTS PER DENTIST	1.36	56	1.46	8	1.37	64

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHNICIANS						
NO TECHNICIANS	195	96.6	9	100.0	204	96.8
1 TECHNICIAN	5	2.2	0	0	5	2.1
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	2	1.1	0	0	2	1.1
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS						
NO TECHNICIANS	198	97.8	9	100.0	207	97.9
1 TECHNICIAN	2	1.1	0	0	2	1.1
2 OR MORE TECHNICIANS	2	1.1	0	0	2	1.1
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

PERCENT OF DENTISTS EMPLOYING PART-TIME TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED		WEIGHTED	
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
NO TECHNICIANS	200	98.9	9	100.0	209	98.9
1 TECHNICIAN	2	1.1	0	0	2	1.1
ALL - WEIGHTED	202	100.0	9	100.0	211	100.0

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	0.03	179	0.00	15	0.03	194
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.02	179	0.00	15	0.02	194
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.01	179	0.00	15	0.01	194

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

EMPLOYMENT OF DENTAL PRACTICE PERSONNEL

INDEPENDENT DENTISTS
GRADUATING SINCE 1980
DENTAL TECHNICIANS

MEAN TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST AMONG DENTISTS EMPLOYING TECHNICIANS

	TYPE OF DENTIST					
	GENERAL PRACTITIONER		SPECIALIST		ALL - WEIGHTED	
	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER	MEAN	NUMBER
FULL- OR PART-TIME TECHS PER DENTIST	0.97	6	---	0	0.97	6
FULL-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	0.96	4	---	0	0.96	4
PART-TIME TECHNICIANS PER DENTIST	1.00	2	---	0	1.00	2

SOURCE: AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION, 1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The 1987 Survey of Dental Practice (SDP) was a condensed version of the long-form 1985 SDP. This short-form of the survey was sent to 4% of the dentists who were known to be actively engaged in the private practice of dentistry.

Sampling

The population consisted of 134,678 dentists who, based on the 1982 Distribution of Dentists, were known to be in private practice, even if only part-time.

The Distribution of Dentists is a dental census that is conducted periodically by the American Dental Association. Although the 1982 distribution is the most recent complete census, the sampling frame is updated by adding information about recent graduations, retirements, and deaths when available. Dentists with an unknown practice type were included in the sampling frame.

The sample was ordered by type of practice - general practitioner or specialist. Within each type, the sample was sorted by dental school and graduation year. A random sample from each type of practice was selected. Since specialists comprise a small percentage of the dental population it was necessary to oversample them to ensure adequate numbers for statistical analysis (i.e., the proportion of specialists sampled is higher than the actual percentage of specialists in the total population). It should be noted that the sample was drawn in such a way as to make statements about general practitioners and specialists as a whole. For any given specialty we may not have enough dentists responding to make reliable statements about that individual specialty.

Data Collection

The 1987 SDP was initially mailed in April 1987. Two follow-up mailings to non-respondents occurred in May and June 1987. A telephone follow-up to nonrespondents was conducted in July and August 1987. Coding, hand-editing, and computer processing were completed in September 1987. The final response rate was computed after the individuals who were either retired, disabled, deceased, not in private practice, or had unknown addresses were eliminated from the sample. The adjusted sample size was used to calculate the final response rate of 57.5%.

Weighting the Sample

Since the proportion of specialists in the sample is higher than the actual percentage in the dental population, it is necessary to account for this imbalance when making statements about the total dental population. The correction is accomplished by developing and applying a weighting factor to each sampled dentist.

Weights were calculated for general practitioners and specialists separately, by dividing the percentage of each in the population by the percentage in the sample. The assumed proportion of general practitioners in the population is 85%, specialists, 15%. The percentage of general practitioners in the sample is 75.3%, specialists, 24.7%.

The weights were computed as follows:

General Practitioner	.85/.753 = 1.128818
Specialists	.15/.247 = 0.607287

These weights were employed in the calculations of means and medians for cases in which general practitioners and specialists were combined (i.e., when statements were made about "all" solo or independent dentists). The weights were also used when percentages of dentists in various categories were computed. The totals as well as the percentages are weighted, making the totals smaller or larger than those for the actual sample.

DEFINITIONS

Definitions of several terms and phrases are provided in this section to assist with the interpretation of data contained in the tables in this and other reports. In general, the dentists included in this report were working in private practice as a primary occupation. In addition, all dentists had started in their current (i.e., 1987) practice prior to 1986.

All Dentists: This group of dentists contains all dentists responding to the survey, including those who are employed by a dentist or dental practice.

Dental Practice Personnel (All Staff): This group includes dental hygienists, chairside assistants, dental laboratory technicians, secretary/receptionists, bookkeepers and other office personnel. Dentists employed by the practice are NOT included.

Full-Time and Part-Time: For purposes of this report, full-time was defined as working in the practice at least 32 hours per week. Part-time was defined as working in the practice less than 32 hours per week.

Hourly Salary: The hourly salary reported is computed by dividing the weekly salary by the number of hours worked.

Independent Dentists: All dentists who own or share in the ownership of a dental practice are independent dentists. This ownership status includes sole proprietorship, partnership and shareholders in an incorporated practice.

Mean: This is the simple average of values reported by the dentists responding to the survey. The mean is calculated by summing the values reported and then dividing the sum by the number of dentists reporting values.

Mean Per Year: This represents the average value reported for a year's period of time (e.g., mean number of appointments per year). The per year figures were determined by multiplying the per week values by the number of weeks worked that year.

Nonowner Dentists (Employed): This group includes all dentists who work in a dental practice on a salary, commission, percentage or associate basis.

Nonsolo Dentists: Nonsolo dentists work in a dental practice with at least one other dentist. Some of these dentists may be employed by the owner dentists in the practice.

No-Shows: The total of patient no-shows is defined as the difference between the number of appointments scheduled and the number of scheduled visits treated. It was assumed that the number of scheduled visits treated is equal to or less than the number of appointments scheduled.

Regions: The following is a breakdown of the states in each region.

New England: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT
Middle Atlantic: NJ, NY, PA
East North Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, WI
West North Central: IA, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD
South Atlantic: DE, MD, DC, FL, GA, NC, SC, VA, WV
East South Central: AL, KY, MS, TN
West South Central: AR, LA, OK, TX
Mountain: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY
Pacific: AK, CA, HI, OR, WA

Scheduled Visits Treated: Scheduled appointments that were kept by the patients.

Solo Dentists: All dentists who work in private practice with no other dentists are solos. A solo dentist is also a sole proprietor or the only shareholder in an incorporated practice.

Total Patient Visits: Total patients visits is the sum of walk-in visits, emergency visits, and scheduled visits treated.

Weighting: Since specialists comprise a smaller percentage of the dental population, it was necessary to oversample them to insure adequate numbers for statistical analysis. The proportion of specialists in the sample is higher than the actual proportion of specialists in the total population of dentists. Please note that individual specialties were not oversampled, and, therefore, only statistics on specialists as a group are presented. Statistics computed for All Dentists were weighted to reflect national proportions.

ADA American Dental Association
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Chicago, Illinois 60611
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1987 SURVEY OF DENTAL PRACTICE

Please answer all questions by **circling** the number corresponding to the most appropriate response, except where a fill in the blank is requested.

1. Which of the following **best** describes your primary and/or secondary occupation(s) during 1986? Please circle **one** response for **EACH** column.)

	Primary Occupation	Secondary Occupation
a. Private practice (full- or part-time)	00	00
b. Dental school faculty/staff member	01	01
c. Armed Forces	02	02
d. Other federal services (e.g., VA, PHS)	03	03
e. State or local government employed	04	04
f. Hospital staff dentist	05	05
g. Intern/resident	06	06
h. Other student	07	07
i. Other health/dental organization staff member (e.g., NIDR)	08	08
j. Not in practice/retired	09	09
k. Occupation unrelated to dentistry	10	10
l. **NO SECONDARY OCCUPATION**	—	11

Please complete the remainder of this questionnaire if you were in **PRIVATE PRACTICE** during **ANY PART** of 1986 as:

1. a **PRIMARY** occupation, **OR**
2. a **SECONDARY** occupation, **OR**
3. both a **PRIMARY** and **SECONDARY** occupation.

If you were **NOT INVOLVED** in the **PRIVATE PRACTICE** of dentistry during any part of 1986 please **RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.** Thank you.

INDIVIDUAL DENTIST QUESTIONS

The following questions pertain to you as an individual private practitioner. If you changed practices (i.e., worked in more than one **PRIMARY** practice during 1986), please give information on the practice in which you treated patients for the greatest number of months.

2. Are you currently **ANNOUNCING** yourself and practicing as a specialist in an ADA recognized specialty area (dental public health, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, oral pathology, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, or prosthodontics)?

Yes 1
No 2

	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
3. In what year did you **FIRST** become associated with the primary/secondary practice where you practiced during 1986?	19 ____	19 ____

4. Which **ONE** of the following **BEST** describes your employment status when you **FIRST** became associated with that practice?

	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
a. Sole proprietor (i.e., the only owner) in an unincorporated dental practice	1	1
b. Partner in a complete or limited partnership	2	2
c. Shareholder in an incorporated dental practice	3	3
d. Employed by an incorporated dental practice on a salary, commission, percentage, or associate basis but not a shareholder	4	4
e. Employed by an unincorporated dental practice on a salary, commission, percentage, or associate basis	5	5
f. Independent contractor	6	6
g. Other, please specify _____		

5. Which **ONE** of the following **BEST** describes your employment status in the practice(s) during 1986?

	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
a. Sole proprietor (i.e., the only owner) in an unincorporated dental practice	1	1
b. Partner in a complete or limited partnership	2	2
c. Shareholder in an incorporated dental practice	3	3
d. Employed in an incorporated dental practice on a salary, commission, percentage, or associate basis but not a shareholder	4	4
e. Employed in an unincorporated dental practice on a salary, commission, percentage, or associate basis	5	5
f. Independent contractor	6	6
g. Other, please specify _____		

	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
6. What was the zip code of your practice(s) during 1986?	_____	_____
	zip code	

7. Please indicate the following regarding patient care that **YOU PERSONALLY** provided during 1986?

The average number of:	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
a. **APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED** per week (**EXCLUDING** those with hygienist appointments only)	_____ appointments per week	_____
b. **WALK-IN VISITS** per week that **YOU** treated (i.e., non-emergency and no appointment scheduled.) (If none, enter zero.)	_____ visits per week	_____
c. **EMERGENCY VISITS** per week that **YOU** treated (i.e., no appointment scheduled.) (If none, enter zero.)	_____ visits per week	_____
d. **SCHEDULED VISITS** per week that **YOU ACTUALLY** treated (**EXCLUDING** those with hygienist appointments only	_____ visits per week	_____

8. Please answer the following about the time **YOU PERSONALLY** spent in the practice(s) during 1986.

	Primary Practice	Secondary Practice
a. Total number of weeks worked (excluding vacation)	_____ weeks	_____
b. Total number of **HOURS PER WEEK** spent in the practice	_____ hours per week	_____
c. Number of hours per week spent **TREATING PATIENTS** in the practice	_____ hours per week	_____

9. What was **YOUR** 1986 net income (after practice expenses and business taxes) from: (Please include salary, commission and/or dividends.)

	Net Income
a. Your primary practice	$ _____ .00
b. Your secondary practice (if applicable)	$ _____ .00
c. Other income from dentistry (i.e., teaching, research, other practice, etc.)	$ _____ .00

If you were in private practice as a **PRIMARY OCCUPATION** during 1986, please continue.

If you were **NOT** in private practice as a **PRIMARY OCCUPATION** during 1986, **DO NOT CONTINUE.** Please return the questionnaire. Thank you.

ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS

10. **INCLUDING YOURSELF**, please indicate the number of full- or part-time **DENTIST POSITIONS** in the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986. (If none, enter zero.)

	Number of Dentist Positions
a. Number of **OWNER** dentists (i.e., sole proprietor, partners, or shareholders)	_____
b. Number of **NON-OWNER** dentists (i.e., employed dentists, associates and non-shareholders) If none, enter zero	_____

11. Please indicate the number of full-time (32 hours per week or more) and part-time (less than 32 hours per week) **EMPLOYEE POSITIONS** in the **PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986. (If none, enter zero.)

	Number of Employee Positions full-time	part-time
a. Dental hygienist(s)	_____	_____
b. Chairside assistant(s)	_____	_____
c. Secretary/receptionist(s)*	_____	_____
d. Dental laboratory technician(s)	_____	_____
e. Bookkeeper, business personnel	_____	_____
f. Other, please specify _____	_____	_____

***NOTE:** A secretary or receptionist who also provides chairside assistance at least 50% of the time should be counted as a chairside assistant.

12. Please provide the following for **EACH DENTAL HYGIENIST** in the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986. If the practice did not employ someone in these positions, please check the appropriate box in the first column.

DENTAL HYGIENIST (S):	Not applicable (Please check boxes)	1986 ANNUAL Salary/ Commission (in dollars)	Weeks Worked in 1986	Hours Worked per Week	Length of Experience PRIOR to Employment in this Practice		Length of Employment in this Practice	
Position #1	☐	$ _____ per year	_____ weeks	_____ hours	_____ years	_____ months	_____ years	_____ months
Position #2	☐	$ _____ per year	_____ weeks	_____ hours	_____ years	_____ months	_____ years	_____ months
Position #3	☐	$ _____ per year	_____ weeks	_____ hours	_____ years	_____ months	_____ years	_____ months

13. Please provide the following regarding all dental hygienist(s) appointments and visits in the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986:

The average number of:	Dental Hygienist(s)
a. **APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED** per week primarily for hygienist(s) treatment	_____ appointments per week
b **SCHEDULED VISITS** per week that were actually treated by all hygienist(s)	_____ visits per week

14. Please indicate the following regarding patient care by the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986:

The average number of:	Entire Practice
a. **APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED** per week (**EXCLUDING** those with hygienist appointments only)	_____ appointments per week
b. **WALK-IN VISITS** per week that were treated (i.e., non-emergency and no appointment scheduled) If none, enter zero	_____ visits per week
c. **EMERGENCY VISITS** per week (i.e., no appointment scheduled) If none, enter zero	_____ visits per week
d. **SCHEDULED VISITS** per week that were **ACTUALLY** treated (**EXCLUDING** those with hygienist appointments only)	_____ visits per week

15. Approximately what percentage of the patients who visited the primary practice in 1986:

	Entire Practice Patient Characteristics
a. were:	
14 years of age or younger	_____%
15 to 64 years of age	_____%
65 years of age or older	_____% TOTAL 100 %
b. were members of families whose annual income is estimated to be:	
under $10,000	_____%
$10,000 to 29,999	_____%
$30,000 or more	_____% TOTAL 100 %
c. were:	
covered by a private insurance program that pays or partially pays for their dental care	_____%
covered by a public assistance program that pays or partially pays for their dental care	_____%
not covered by an insurance program	_____% TOTAL 100 %
d. were members of a racial minority	_____%

16. During the entire year of 1986 indicate the **TOTAL** number of **DIFFERENT PATIENTS** treated by the **PRIMARY PRACTICE** _____ different patients

17. For the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986 how long did an average patient of record and average new patient have to **WAIT:**

	Entire Practice Waiting Time	
	patient of record	new patient
a. for the **INITIAL APPOINTMENT** of a series (excluding emergency cases)	_____ days	_____ days
b. to see a dentist **AFTER** the patient arrived for a **SCHEDULED** APPOINTMENT	_____ minutes	_____ minutes

18. In the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE**, what was the **total amount of fees charged** for the dental care provided during 1986 **(annual billing)**? $ _____.00

19. What percentage of the 1986 **GROSS RECEIPTS** were received: (If none, enter zero.)

	Gross Receipts
a. as direct patient payment	_____%
b. as payment from government programs (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, or other public insurance)	_____%
c. as direct payment from private insurance carriers	_____%
d. from other sources of payment (Please specify) _____	_____% TOTAL 100 %

20. During 1986, were any of the expenses of the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** (dental facilities or staff) shared with other dentists?

Yes 1
No 2

If you shared expenses (dental facilities or staff) with any other practice, please report **YOUR PRIMARY PRACTICE** expenses only.

21. For the following selected items, what were the **TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES** for the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986? (If no expenses were incurred for specific items, please enter zero.)

	Expenses
a. Yearly rent	$ _____.00
b. Yearly mortgage (including interest)	$ _____.00
c. Total salaries, wages and commissions of non-dentists employees	$ _____.00
d. Commercial dental laboratory charges	$ _____.00
e. Dental supplies	$ _____.00
f. Advertising expenses	$ _____.00
g. Bad debts	$ _____.00

22. What were the **TOTAL PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES** of operating the **ENTIRE PRIMARY PRACTICE** during 1986? $ _____.00
(This figure should be greater than the sum of the figures in question 21.)

Thank you for your assistance in this important research project. Please return this questionnaire by folding and place tape as indicated. Drop it in the mail.